

## LOSS OF MEMORY IN HASSETT GRAFT CASE

Witnesses Forgetful When Testifying Before the Grand Jury.

### NEW NAMES MENTIONED

Contractor Aldrich Says No One Was Present When He Paid the Money.

The Grand Jury in the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court labored for three hours yesterday over the case against Thomas Hasset, the confidential agent of State Engineer Hessel, who is charged with accepting a bribe of \$15,000 from Madison R. Aldrich, a contractor of Poughkeepsie.

At the end of their session the jury adjourned until next Wednesday. Tricks of memory that made several witnesses unable to recall circumstances delayed the proceedings. Several jurymen took part in the questioning in an effort to assist District Attorney Whitman, and several new names were mentioned. These men will be called on Wednesday.

Mr. Aldrich repeated the story which he told Chief Magistrate McAdoo in the John Doe proceedings. He cleared up one misunderstanding. It was understood that when he said that two men were present on the night when he paid Hasset in his apartment at 29 Hamilton place they would say whether or not Aldrich handed \$15,000 to Hasset. Aldrich said yesterday that no one was present when he gave Hasset the money. Two men were there when he called, he said, but at the request of Hasset they retired.

**Ignorant of Bribery.**  
William Clark, a buyer for a dry goods house in Eighth avenue, testified that he roomed with Hasset. His memory was not good as to the visit of Aldrich. He told reporters that he knew absolutely nothing about the alleged bribery. James E. Neville, who is alleged to have been present in Keeler's Hotel in Albany the night that Aldrich and John E. Consalus met there, could not recall anything that transpired at that meeting. James M. Hamilton, who with Hasset and Samuel Beskin is interested in the Hamilton Engineering Construction Company, was questioned as to his business relations with Hasset.

Among the documentary evidence before the Grand Jury was the check for \$15,000 which Aldrich's stenographer cashed at a Poughkeepsie bank. She brought the money back in small bills and he has said that he worked hard to get a \$1,000 bill and a \$500 bill in exchange. He testified that he understood big bills were quite the thing in bribery transactions. His stenographer probably will be called later. All the witnesses signed waivers of immunity before they testified yesterday.

Mr. Hamilton and Consalus are to return next Wednesday along with the men who have been brought into the case more recently.

Arthur A. McLean, treasurer of the Democratic State committee, indicted for accepting a contribution from corporations, pleaded not guilty before Justice Davis yesterday. His counsel was Isidor Kiesel, law partner of former District Attorney William T. Davis.

**Littleton Moves to Quash.**  
Martin W. Littleton moved to quash the first indictment against Fowler. He argued that the transaction through which Seneca P. Hull of Cortland was induced to part with \$250 was concluded in Onondaga county and that depositing the check in New York was not an integral part of the alleged extortion. "You can't indict a thief who never puts his foot in making his escape," declared Mr. Littleton.

Justice Davis agreed that the actual extortion, if it occurred, took place in Onondaga county, but he said obtaining possession of the money was a very important matter and might turn out to be the crux of the case. He denied Mr. Littleton and Assistant District Attorney Clark, who opposed the motion, to submit briefs by next Wednesday.

James W. Osborne is investigating the State Highway Department, conferred with District Attorney Whitman yesterday. He got transcripts of the testimony taken before Chief Magistrate McAdoo and other documents that will be of use to him. Mr. Whitman also gave him the names of several witnesses.

After the conference the District Attorney said that the rumors of friction between him and Mr. Osborne were unfounded. The two investigators promised to aid each other and questions of jurisdiction arise they will be settled amicably.

James K. McGuire will be in New York today. He left Havana for New York by way of Key West on Wednesday. Cable despatches from Havana said that he was accompanied by Thomas Hasset.

### SEEKS HIGHWAY GRAFT DATA.

Foley Will Find, It Is Said, \$800 Was Repair Guarantee.

ALBANY, Dec. 5.—Charles F. Foley, first deputy of the State Highway Department in charge of the bureau of maintenance and repairs, was in Albany today looking up the records in connection with the charge that a \$17,000 payment to Madison R. Aldrich of Poughkeepsie was hurried through the department only after Aldrich had paid a bribe to State Engineer John A. Hessel.

Mr. Foley's friends say that the Aldrich payment was held up on complaint of the county superintendent of highways and that after an inspection of the road from Hudson to Livingston James T. Brady, who had been in the department for years, found defects in the work. These defects, it is said, could not be remedied until spring and the contractor was paid after he had deposited a check for \$800 to cover the repairs to be made.

CARROLL, N. Y., Dec. 5.—The Board of Supervisors of Carroll county passed a resolution today requesting that the State Highway Department be asked to stop the Hessel investigators from digging more holes in the state roads of this county and asking that the Highway Department repair immediately the holes already made so that the water cannot get into the road and injure it when it freezes.

The special Grand Jury which was investigating the case of Harvey R. Sprout of Peekskill, who built the roads in that county, failed to return an indictment. The investigators dug holes in the road near Peekskill and found that Sprout had given the State 50 per cent more stone than required by the contract or paid for.

**Business Part of Lodi Burned.**

BENSAID, PA., Dec. 5.—Fire destroyed the business part of Lodi today. It started in Nathan Pruttingham's clothing store, from which a man was seen to run just before the flames burst out. Shops and the furniture store on the corner were probably prevented from being burned by the fire.

## MORE POLICE WANT TO QUIT.

They Say Job Isn't What It Used to Be.

Five applications for retirement from the Police Department were sent to Commissioner Waldo yesterday by a captain and four lieutenants, all ineligible to retire, as none is 55 years old or has been a member of the department for twenty-five years. They are Capt. Bernard Keeler, 40th street station, Brooklyn; Lieut. Gilbert Holmes, Jr., Grand avenue station, Brooklyn; Lieut. Daniel F. Curtin, Morrisania station, Bronx; Lieut. Patrick J. Lynch, Stapleton station, Richmond; and Lieut. John Flynn, in command of detectives, Myer street precinct.

They were ordered to appear before the board of surgeons to be examined for physical disability incurred in the performance of duty. If it is found that they received such injuries as entitled them for active police work they may all be retired.

Applications for retirement have been pouring into the Commissioner's office during the last year. Many officers have freely admitted that they wanted to get out. They say that the job is not what it used to be. The Commissioner is not averse to getting rid of all men who are of that mind.

## GIRL WHO SHOT CHASE HAS CHANCE TO LIVE

Refuses to Give Reason for Her Act—Unrequited Love, Say Police.

Miss Rose Pressman, who killed Nathan Chase, the man she loved, late Thursday afternoon in her uncle's commission house at 29 West Seventeenth street and then shot herself in the breast, refused to give any reason for her act yesterday. She has a bullet imbedded just above her heart and is still in a serious condition in the New York Hospital, but Dr. Francis W. Murray, chief house surgeon, thinks that she will live.

The police believe that the young woman was infatuated with Chase, who was a salesman for her uncle, Peter Pressman, and killed him because he spurned her affections. Pressman had employed her until a week ago as a stenographer, but had to discharge her because Chase complained of her attentions to him.

Mrs. William Laird of 115 Wadsworth avenue, with whom Miss Pressman lived for the past six months, was with her for several hours yesterday afternoon at the hospital. Miss Pressman did not tell her why she shot Chase, but asked her not to let any one enter her room at Mrs. Laird's apartments. Mrs. Laird said the young woman was an orphan, had been reserved and quiet about her personal affairs, that her motive was above reproach, but that she had been melancholy lately and seemed to worry about something.

Detective Scanlon of the West Seventeenth street station questioned Miss Pressman several times, but she would tell him nothing, except that she wanted to die. Chase's parents, with whom he lived at 1430 Sixth street, Brooklyn, knew nothing about the young woman who killed him.

### MRS. HEYE GETS DIVORCE.

Her Request for \$75,000 a Year Alimony Cut to \$15,000.

Supreme Court Justice Van Selen signed yesterday at Mineola, L. I., the final decree of divorce of Mrs. Blanche A. W. Heye from her husband, George F. Heye, a banker of Manhattan. Mrs. Heye's request for \$75,000 a year alimony was cut to \$15,000, and she will lose that if she remarries, which she is entitled to do by the terms of the decree. She will be known hereafter as Mrs. Williams-Heye.

Mrs. Heye's children, Agnes and Lawrence, will get \$25,000 a year for their support. Mrs. Heye is also to receive \$5,000 in alimony before July 1 next. Heye is to pay all bills incurred prior to July 20 unless they amount to more than \$17,000. Mrs. Heye is directed to give her husband a number of personal articles belonging to him and he is to give her a bill of sale for household furniture in Manhattan and a diamond necklace now at Tiffany's.

The evidence in the divorce action, in which an actress was named, was heard before John J. Graham, Surrogate of Nassau county, as referee.

### WALKER DIVORCE REVERSED.

New Trial Disproves Charges Against Son of Late Rear Admiral.

Newport, Dec. 5.—The decision in the divorce suit of Nina Cline Walker against James W. G. Walker, a former lieutenant commander in the navy and a son of the late Rear Admiral John Walker, has been reversed. The case was tried in 1909 and Mrs. Walker gained the decision on the ground of infidelity. Miss Mabel Cochrane of Boston was named. On the ground that new evidence had been discovered the Supreme Court granted a new trial. Judge Stearns of the Superior Court gave his decision today and denied the petition of Mrs. Walker on the ground that there had been no infidelity.

### DURYEA WEDDING LICENSED.

Nyak Town Clerk Takes Blank to Baldwin's Home Secretly.

NYACK, N. Y., Dec. 5.—Miss Lillian Duryea and William H. Baldwin have obtained their marriage license and will be wedded in New York city within a fortnight. News that the license had been issued did not become known until today, as the town clerk, Mr. Essex, took the necessary blanks to Baldwin's home secretly last night.

When asked this evening what he knew about the coming wedding, Mr. Essex said he could give no information other than that he had issued the license. No information could be obtained at the Duryea home, but friends who are close to the family say the wedding will be in about two weeks and that it will occur in New York.

### DAHLGREN DIVORCE UPHELD.

Appellate Division Rules Against Rear Admiral's Son.

Mrs. Lucy B. Dahlgren, daughter of the late Joseph Draxel of Philadelphia, is entitled to a decree of divorce from Eric B. Dahlgren, a former member of the New York State Assembly and son of Rear Admiral Dahlgren of civil war fame, under a ruling by the Appellate Division yesterday.

Mrs. Dahlgren, who inherited several million dollars from her father and mother, named Mrs. Jane Bradley as co-respondent in her divorce case, and offered testimony showing that Dahlgren spent a great deal of time and money in his apartment in East Fifty-ninth street and took her out to dinner. The testimony also showed that Dahlgren and Mrs. Bradley had a romantic relationship and were kissing and hugging along Fifty-ninth street on the way to her apartment.

## OTHER WOMEN TELL OF POISONED NEEDLE

Police Investigating New Cases Like Attack on Mrs. Graff.

### MEGARO'S BAIL \$20,000

Jabber Believed to Have Used Subtle South American Drug.

Amanda Megaro, arrested in Newark on Thursday afternoon, charged with jabbing a poisoned needle into the hand of Mrs. Marjorie Graff, the bride of a week of Wesley Monteth Graff, a civil engineer, as she was watching moving pictures in a box at the Lyric Theatre, Newark, was held yesterday in \$20,000 bail for the Grand Jury by Judge Hahn in that city. Megaro emphatically declared that he was not guilty, but Mrs. Graff insisted that Megaro was the only person in the box when she felt the sting.

An usher in the theatre picked up yesterday a darning needle two and a half inches long in the box occupied by Mrs. Graff. There is no evidence that this is the needle that wounded Mrs. Graff, but needles are not common in these boxes and Chief of Police Michael T. Long and Capt. Frank W. Tufts of the Newark detective bureau considered this find significant.

The chief said last night that he would send the needle to a chemist so that an analysis may be made to determine whether any poison still remains on it. It is the opinion of Long and Tufts that the needle that stung Mrs. Graff's hand may have been doctored with curare, a black brittle, resinous extract of strychnos taxifera, or some other poison in which South American Indians dip their arrow heads. The fact that Megaro was born in the Argentine Republic caused them to find out all they could about South American poisons.

### Girl Tells of Another Attack.

Miss Jeanette Clark, 19 years old, of 121 Pacific street, Newark, told the police last night that she had an experience at the Lyric Theatre on Thursday evening night not unlike that of Mrs. Graff. She said that she had a box seat, but found the box full and took an aisle seat just under the box. As she took off her coat, she said, a man with black hair leaned over the box rail and she felt a pricking sensation in her arm. Then a peculiar feeling came over her, she explained, and she went to the retiring room, where she was revived. She later returned to her seat, but the man had disappeared.

Miss Clark received a telephone message last night from some one who wanted to know if she remembered her experience in the theatre.

"The description of the man under arrest," said the voice which Miss Clark couldn't identify, "tallies with that of the black haired man in the box."

Miss Clark said she will inquire among her friends to-day if any of them telephoned to her and then she will go to police headquarters to see if she can identify Megaro.

A policeman reported to Capt. Corrado at Newark headquarters last night that Mrs. L. C. a stenographer for the Hecks with-Chandler Company, varnish manufacturers at 201 Emmet street, was jabbed with a needle in Schubert's Theatre, Newark, five weeks ago. She told the policeman that she was in the box of the building, and that she was alone. Her sister, for whom she had been working, arrived just then and the men hurried away.

**Think Jabber Was Thief.**  
Although many stories have been adopted of late that white slavers have adopted the practice of shooting poison by means of needles into the arms of young women in motion picture houses and other places with the idea of abducting them while they were in a daze, Chief Long and Capt. Tufts are convinced that in the case of Mrs. Graff and several other cases that have come under their notice, the motive was probably that of robbery.

Both pointed out that Mrs. Graff wore a \$100 diamond ring and a \$500 watch and suggested that the person who worked the needle possibly hoped that the poison would render her to a condition of helplessness so that she would be unable to run and he would be able to make off with her goods before any one noticed what was going on.

The Newark detectives are investigating several other poisoned needle stories that have reached their ears and expect before long to have a number of alleged victims of mysterious jabbing at Megaro.

Among the Newark victims is said to be a girl who was jabbed by a man in the Lyric Theatre in the case of Mrs. Graff and several other cases that have come under their notice, the motive was probably that of robbery.

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**Man With Needle Got Away.**  
Two similar cases occurred in other show houses. In each instance the man with the needle got away. In one case the daytime is said, and each girl is known to have worn valuable jewelry, which has strengthened the belief of the Newark police heads that the poisoned needle was used for the purpose of robbery and not because white slavers hoped to get unconscious or helpless young women in their power.

Mrs. Graff was dressed with great care when she entered Judge Hahn's court yesterday with her husband. She was married last Saturday by the Rev. Nehemiah Bonington, pastor of the Church Avenue Congregational Church of Brooklyn, and was spending a part of her honeymoon in Newark because her husband had been called back from Albany to his duties as a member of the Engineering Company of Newark. Mrs. Graff is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A. S. Higgins of 414 Jefferson street, Brooklyn, and is the granddaughter of the late Almeron Higgins, one of the founders of the Montauk Club of Brooklyn.

In telling her story on the stand Mrs. Graff said that at the conclusion of the show some persons sitting in the box with her went out and Megaro, who was in the box in front, came in and took a seat right behind her. She felt a sting. He sat there about five minutes, she said, when suddenly she felt a sharp sting and almost immediately a sort of numbness came over her. Her head reeled, she said, and she staggered to the retiring room, where she believed she fainted. She was revived by aro-aromatic spirit of ammonia and then told her story, whereupon detectives left her to the box, found Megaro still sitting there and arrested him despite his protests.

**Says Stout Man Ran Out.**  
Megaro asked Mrs. Graff if she noticed a stout man with glasses in the box. He insisted that when the bride got up to go to the retiring room she saw a stout man in the box. He denied that he ever used or had any knowledge of poisoned needles.

After holding Megaro for the Grand Jury Judge Hahn set him at liberty on a similar case and might have another needle victim in court in a day or so. The judge said that it was a terrible situation when women were not safe on the street or in public places and promised that he would do everything in his power



How to be warm, though motoring, is answered by our warm motor coats.

Roomy, comfortable coats, easy to slip into; some double-texture fabrics, the outside a rough Shetland or chinchilla effect; some are plush-lined; raglans and double-breasted coats.

Add a fur cap, fur lined gloves or gauntlets and a fur foot-muff, and what could be more comfortable!

Every good sort of Winter overcoat.

Soft finished Shetlands and chinchillas.

Smooth-finished meltons and kerseys.

Double-breasted ulsters. "Scotch Mist" coats—rain-proofed coats of rough Scotch cheviot.

Men's overcoats, \$18 to \$75. Fur coats and fur lined coats, too.

ROGERS PEET COMPANY.  
Three Broadway Stores  
at Warren St. 13th St. 34th St.

to cooperate with the police in running down the needle jabbers.

Megaro is a nephew of Dr. Panerazio Megaro of 315 High street, Newark. He was formerly a student at the New Jersey College of Pharmacy.

Graff and his bride left the Belvidere Hotel, Newark, yesterday afternoon and did not say where they were going. They wanted to avoid the many callers who had questions to ask about Mrs. Graff's experience.

Assistant District Attorney Colton, who is in charge of the complaint bureau of District Attorney Whitman's office, received his first complaint of needle jabbing yesterday. The woman refused to have her name made public. She was accompanied by a male friend.

### Woman's Story to Colton.

"The woman's story told me," said Mr. Colton, "that as she was descending in an elevator in a department store, she was pricked in the arm. There was but one man in the car and when the main door was reached the man disappeared. When she returned to the upper part of the building she again noticed the man following her. Later when she met her friend after leaving the store she found a small needle prick wound and it was cut in her dress. She complained of feeling drowsy and told her friend she had been given an injection of cocaine or some other drug."

Mr. Colton said the law would permit a prosecution for assault for such acts. Many stories have been in circulation of needles being pushed into the arms of girls and young women have been the victims. In every case those who were wounded in motion picture houses, department stores and other places have told of a queer feeling as if they had been drugged.

Not long ago a young woman living in Newark went into a confectioner's shop in this city and ordered a cup of chocolate. As a waiter served it a man sitting opposite, reached over and took the cup. The woman told him that it belonged to her, whereupon he returned it with an apology. Soon after she drank the chocolate the young woman felt herself getting faint, she realized that she had been drugged and wrote this note:

"If anything happens to me notify my father's address."

An attendant started to escort her to the retiring room, but the man who had taken her chocolate stepped up and said: "This lady is my wife. I'll take care of her." The manager, however, insisted on reporting the case to the Newark police and the stranger hurried away.

"Curare, sometimes written 'curoral', the ancient Indian arrow poison, could not be found in any drug store," said a State reporter yesterday afternoon, although a clerk in a big downtown drug store said that he would get the drug on order from a person who was known to him. A chemist in Levin & Fink, wholesalers, at 129 William street, said the firm had not sold curare in fifteen years.

"It was quite often used to quiet the nerves in cases of hydrophobia and the like up to about fifteen years ago," said the chemist. "But we have not sold any of it since that time. It is prepared by the Indians by crude methods and its properties are not constant. This fact renders its use largely speculative and sometimes dangerous, so it has been superseded by more modern drugs."

### WIFE DIVORCES G. R. SALISBURY.

Retired Commodore, U. S. N., Does Not Contest Suit.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 5.—Mrs. Alice Frothingham Salisbury, wife of Commodore George R. Salisbury, U. S. N., retired today was granted a divorce in Judge Southern's court. The action was uncontested by the Commodore.

Mrs. Salisbury testified that they were married in 1889 and that their married life was happy until about five years ago. At that time her husband was accused of foreign service. When he returned, she said, he did not go to their home in Brooklyn and soon after left the country for good. She said she was in a state of all-mony having been made out of court. Commodore Salisbury at one time was Governor of Guam.

### LOPEZ NOT FOUND IN MINE.

Mexican Murderer Believed to Have Blocked Off Tunnel.

SAIT LAKE, Dec. 5.—Poisonous fumes and dense black smoke started to pour out of the Parnell tunnel of the Utah Apex mine today when the miners began to tear away the bulkheads which have sealed the entrance for several days during which the fumes have been sent into the mine to asphyxiate Raphael Lopez, the murderer of six men.

A party of deputies entered the mine to search for the body of the Mexican, but the places where he was expected to be found were bare of any evidence that he had ever been there. It is believed that the man blocked off a portion of the tunnel to escape the smoke and fumes.

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of everything a man of any age requires for wear anywhere, in or out-of-doors, at any hour of the twenty-four.

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## Christmas Number

OR  
The Evening Post  
NEW YORK

SATURDAY MAGAZINE

OUT TO-DAY

ON ALL NEWSSTANDS

### MORE CHINA IMPORTERS SUED.

Government Asks \$5,000,000 for Alleged Undervaluations.

The Government began suit yesterday to recover \$2,616,958 from Herman C. Kupper, a china importer of 52 Murray street, and \$1,825 from A. Lauterbach & Co., dealers in chinaware. The defendants are charged with undervaluing importations of Limoges china.

### MAYOR FITZGERALD COLLAPSES.

Must Take a Rest Despite Campaign for Re-election in Boston.

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—In the midst of his campaign for re-election, Mayor Fitzgerald has been ordered by his physician to take a rest or run the risk of a complete breakdown. During his inspection of a building house today Mayor Fitzgerald collapsed. He pitched headlong down the stairs.

### HAYNES MONUMENT UNVEILED.

Scholars Honor the Late Archaeologist in North Adams.

NORTH ADAMS, Mass., Dec. 5.—Before a gathering of scholars representing various parts of the country, the monument in honor of Dr. John Henry Haynes was unveiled today over the late archaeologist's grave in Hillside Cemetery.

Prof. Albert T. Clay of Yale University unveiled the monument. The ceremony was brief and simple. It was

### SMOKE DECISIONS REVERSED.

New York Central Wins and Edison Company Loses on Appeal.

A decision of the Special Sessions of the Appellate Division of the Department of Health against the New York Edison Company for permitting smoke to issue from its plant at Forty-ninth street and First avenue was reversed yesterday by the Appellate Division and the Edison company must now defend the charges against it in court.

### Youth Dies After Killing Bride.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5.—Leon J. Jarry, who fatally shot his nineteen-year-old bride yesterday, died today. His wife, who was shot in the back, died last night. It is believed they entered into a suicide agreement.